

THE MYCOPHILE

VOLUME 51: 2

APRIL/MAY 2011

www.namyc.org

NAMA 2011 FORAY

Dr. RICHARD HOMOLA Memorial Foray
Reserve your spot, register now!



FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!
Just released Foray Logo -
Courtesy NAMA Arts Committee
The list of distinguished
presenters now includes
Jay Justice, who will speak
on mushrooms of the
south, and Bill Russell,
who will speak about
edible mushrooms of the
Mid-Atlantic area.
Pre-Foray Ascomycetes
Workshop Sold Out! ☹️

The Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club continues to work diligently finalizing details and registering participants for the 2011 NAMA Foray to honor the late Dr. Richard Homola Thursday, August 4 thru Sunday, August 7. The Foray is going to be an action packed event with now 28 presenters, 20 walks, workshops and mycophagy. The walks will traverse a wide range of habitats in Clear Creek State Forest, Clear Creek State Park, Cook State Park, PA Game lands, and the Allegheny National Forest. These areas are the favored haunts of mycologists from three states! Additional information is available on the NAMA web site, www.namyc.org/events. Mail your check and completed Registration/Waiver Form to: WPMC/NAMA 2011, Becky Plischke, 129 Grant Street, Greensburg, PA 15601. If you have questions, contact Becky at 724-834-2358 or morelbp@aol.com. The Registration Form and Liability Waiver are on pages 9-10.

ERRATA: Previous Issue

The Recipe "**Mushroom, Sausage & Arugula Crostini**" is the creation of Arleen Bessette
The contact for the Clark Rogerson Foray,
September 2-5, is: www.comafungi.org

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Thank you for the positive and constructive comments received on the last issue, NAMA's first electronically delivered. For those of you that prefer to print out the *Mycophile* and save it, the margins have been altered to permit easy hole punching.

As NAMA moves away from printing the *Mycophile*, the savings will be redirected to other educational efforts to benefit the membership.

Thanks again to all the clubs that share their Newsletters with us.

Want to read more about mycological matters?

In addition to NAMA and your local affiliate club, subscribe to:

Fungi magazine www.fungimag.com

Mushroom: The Journal of Wild
Mushrooming
leon@mushroomthejournal.com

FROM THE PRESIDENT

NAMA offers three different kinds of forays to its members: Annual Forays, Regional Forays, and Exotic Forays. These forays are limited to NAMA's membership. Annual Forays may be planned and administered by either the Foray Committee or hosted by an affiliated club. Regional Forays are administered by the Foray Committee and may be held anywhere in the U.S. or Canada. Exotic Forays – also administered by the Foray Committee – are offered from time to time in settings always outside the U.S. or Canada. In the past, these forays have been held in Europe, Africa, and Mexico. Another type of foray, the so-called “Endorsed Foray,” is really not a NAMA offering, but an affiliated club event which NAMA members may attend. The affiliated club may request and will usually receive some promotional support from NAMA. NAMA may also promote other affiliated clubs' forays and events.

Apart from its Annual Foray, last year NAMA had one Regional Foray – the traditional Wildacres outing, held in North Carolina – and engaged in two Endorsed Forays: one in Alberta, Canada and one in Pennsylvania. All three forays were well attended and given high marks by the participants.

This year there will be two NAMA Regional Forays. The 2011 Wildacres Foray will be held for the fourteenth time on September 22nd through the 25th and Dr. Andrew Methven will be the chief mycologist. Then there will be a new foray at the Southwest Reach Station in the Chiricahua Mountains near Portal, Arizona. It will be held September 2nd through the 5th. Dr. Jack States will serve as chief mycologist at this new regional foray. (For more information about these two forays, see the previous *Mycophile* or www.namyco.org.)

A number of members particularly enjoy attending the smaller NAMA Regional and Endorsed Forays because of the camaraderie that evolves over the course of such events. NAMA's Foray Committee will be asked to consider how it can help develop additional Regional Forays and encourage Endorsed Forays for members to attend in the countless beautiful locations widely distributed throughout North America; and, with the assistance of the Executive Committee, bring these foray proposals before the Board of Trustees for approval.

The Executive Committee is composed of the officers and three member trustees. Allein Stanley, Peggy Laine, and Martin Osis have agreed to serve on the Executive Committee for the 2011 term. Each of them is a qualified and dedicated member of NAMA and we are lucky to have them once again volunteer to serve this organization in key positions. I know that you all join me in congratulating and wishing them well in their new posts.

Dr. Rytas Vilgalys has accepted an appointment to be a NAMA Institutional Trustee on the Board of Trustees. We are most fortunate that he has agreed to serve in this capacity. He heads a world class Mycology Department and Laboratory at Duke University and is the past president of the Mycological Society of America. His publications on mycological taxonomy are extensive and he is internationally recognized for his research, particularly with respect to mycological systematics.

Now that the year is well underway, everyone can look forward with anticipation to the coming seasons and all they promise. It is also a good time to consider how much better NAMA can serve its members by taking advantage of the many

improvements in communications in today's high-tech environment. For example, take the newly adopted system of delivering this newsletter via the Internet. This change will usher in substantial reductions in the costs of production and delivery of the newsletter and allow NAMA to provide the members with a larger, more colorful, and informative newsletter with a more reliable and timely delivery. The savings realized can then be directed to other important activities. To receive the newsletter electronically, send your email address to Membership Secretary Ann Bornstein at: annstitcher@charter.net

Bob Fulgency

Moving?

Please send your new address **two weeks** before you move to:

Ann Bornstein
NAMA Membership Secretary
61 Devon Court
Watsonville, CA 95076-1160
annstitcher@charter.net

Otherwise – you may not be getting your newsletter for a while.

NAMA is a 501©(3) nonprofit, charitable organization. Contributions to support the scientific and educational activities of the Association are always welcome and may be deductible as allowed by law. Send contributions to:

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Mycophile is published bi-monthly by the North American Mycological Association,
6586 Guilford Road,
Clarksville, MD 21029

Website: www.namyco.org

Bob Fulgency, President
5620 Code Avenue
Edina, MN 55436

FORAYS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NAMA Regional Forays Limited to 40 participants each. Register now!
NAMA IN THE SOUTHWEST **WILDACRES**

The foray will be held over Labor Day weekend: September 2 - 5, 2011. Dr. Jack States, recognized as the authority on southwestern fungi, will be the chief mycologist. Registration has been set at \$260 per person, double occupancy.

The fourteenth annual Wildacres Retreat will be held in September this year (22-25). Dr. Andrew Methven will return as Chief Mycologist. Registration continues to be \$215.00 per person, double occupancy

Registration forms and additional information is available on NAMA's web site www.namyco.org.

Reports of NAMA's 2010 Regional Foray and two Endorsed Forays

The Wildacres Regional Foray had its thirteenth annual get-together in October near Ashville, N.C. Dr. Brandon Matheny of the University of Tennessee was the chief mycologist, Dr. Walt Sundberg was the recorder, and Dr. Pat Leacock, from the Chicago Field Museum, was the identifier. Although the number of species identified (79) was not up to that of past years (usually over 200), the attendees did manage to find 10 species that had not previously been seen at this site.

In early September, the Alberta Mycological Society (AMS) volunteered its “Great Alberta Mushroom Foray” in Western Canada as an Endorsed Foray. It was dedicated to Leni Schalkwijk, a close friend and mentor to many members of AMS. The location was in the Kananaskis, just outside Banff National Park in the Canadian Rocky Mountains – an exceptionally stunning natural setting that is considered among the finest in North America. The chosen site offered comfortable accommodations as well as terrific cuisine. The foray attracted a record number of participants.

This AMS foray featured excellent presentations by several outstanding mycologists and knowledgeable amateurs, including Dr. Scott Redhead, Dr. Jim Ginns and Dr. David Malloch (referred to by Martin Osis as the three wise men from the East); and Dr. Sean Abbott, Dr. Christine Roberts, Paul Kroger, John Plischke III, and Martin Osis. A large number and variety of mushroom species were identified. Dr. Jim Ginns identified *Auriporia pileata*, a small polypore with a strong scent of orange blossoms, until now found only in Asia. Another rare find was *Aleurodiscus dendroides*. One unusual pink mushroom gathered is believed to possibly be a new genus. The total number of species identified came to 275.

In October, the Mycological Association of Washington and the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club collaborated to put on an Endorsed Foray at Camp Sequanota in the Laurel Highlands of Pennsylvania. Camp Sequanota is situated near Jennerstown, a small village west of Pittsburgh. The event attracted forty-four mushroomers, about half of whom were NAMA members from the East Coast region. John Plischke III and Noah Siegel gave excellent presentations. Over the course of the event, 147 species were identified. Among the more interesting discoveries were a *Tricholoma pullum* and *Hypocrea palladia* growing on *Tyromyces chioneus*. John Plischke III reported that everyone had a great time.

By Bob Fulgency with assistance of Allein Stanley, Martin Osis and John Plischke III for providing much of the detailed information regarding these various forays.

Other Forays of interest to NAMA members: Northeast Mycological Federation, 35th Sam Ristich NEMF Foray at Paul Smith's College, in Paul Smiths, New York, August 11 thru 14; www.nemf.org/files/2011/2011.html. Connecticut-Westchester Mycological Association, 33rd Clark Rogerson Foray Hebron, Connecticut, September 2 thru 5; www.comafungi.org. Asheville Mushroom Club, Fall Fungi Weekend, YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina, September 9 thru 11; www.ashevilemushroomclub.com. Telluride Colorado Festival, August 18 thru 21; www.shroomfest.com. MycoAfincionados of Mexico is organizing a special foray/excursion in Costa Rica July 17-25. Information at www.mexmush.com, but contact mexmush@yahoo.com for current details.

MEET YOUR NAMA COMMITTEE: EDUCATION

NAMA's Education Committee is its largest. Its members give numerous presentations to affiliated clubs and other public groups, develop programs, and write articles for various public venues, including the NAMA's *McIlvainea* and *Mycophile* and website. Some of the work efforts of the committee members and others, described below, are available at: namyco.org/education/index.html. If you would like to help or make a contribution, please contact Education Committee Chair, Sandy Sheine, at: ssheine@aol.com.

How to Put on a Mushroom Fair *BRAND NEW*

A detailed "handbook" for those who wish to put on a mushroom related event for the first time or to enhance plans for your next event is now available at [Guidelines for a Successful Mushroom Fair](#). The information in this comprehensive guide runs from pre-event planning and logistics, presentation options, choosing a venue, engaging your volunteers and visitors, and creating educational and interactive displays. [Minnesota's story page 5]

Teaching About Fungi:

This section includes 27 downloadable teaching units and a detailed [Lesson Plan](#) for K-12 and college. In the units that contain questions for children on fungi, they have also been translated into Spanish.

A useful document. "*How the Mushrooms got its Spots, An Explainers Guide to Fungi*", produced by the British Mycological Society Education Group as a guide for teachers [may be downloaded](#) as a pdf file.

An "Eastern" and a "Western" Teaching Kit are available for use for K-12 and college level classes, in schools, colleges, nature centers and science museums.

A list of 29 fiction and non-fiction books for young people is provided, each designated for appropriate grade level.

A list of reference books and online teaching resources is also available.

Programs For Loan

There are 54 programs in slide-tape, computer CD, Video, VHS and DVD formats. The topics range from An Introduction to Mushrooms to the major genera of the gilled fungi, boletes and polypores as well as the Ascomycetes. Programs are free to NAMA members and clubs.

NAMA Speakers Bureau

A pool of over 50 potential speakers for NAMA affiliated club meetings, forays and other events is maintained on the [Speakers Bureau](#) page.

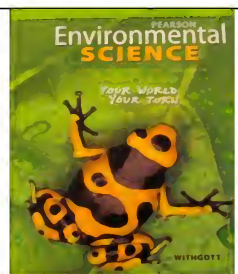
One member of the Education Committee has taken educating the public about mycology to another level of awareness.

Ophelia Barizo, a teacher at Highland View Academy in Hagerstown, Maryland, was awarded the Drug, Chemical and Associated Technologies (DCAT) "Making a Difference" Award. This award recognizes and honors excellence in a science program developed and implemented by science teachers. Ms. Barizo received her award at a special banquet and ceremony at NSTA's 59th National Conference on Science Education in San Francisco.

In Ms. Barizo's project, "The Study of Mycorrhizal and Saprophytic Mushrooms and their Role in Forest Ecosystems," students participated in guided forays under the tutelage of experts in mycology from the Mycological Association of Washington, D.C. Students also produced a 60-page booklet featuring color photographs and descriptions of the mushrooms and their habitats. The booklet has been distributed to nature centers, tourism centers, and other interested parties. The project caught the interest of Pearson Education, and is featured in their latest environmental science textbook.



LEFT:
L-R Representative of DCAT; Deborah Trevino, principal of Highland View Academy; Ophelia Barizo, Awardee; and Dr. Alan McCormack, NSTA president. Taken at the Teacher Awards Banquet in San Francisco during the National Science Teachers Association Annual Meeting.
RIGHT:
Pearson's **Environmental Science**



Science teachers are encouraged to apply for its 2012 Teacher Awards. Applications and information can be found online at <http://www.nsta.org/about/awards.aspx>. [Editor]

Minnesota Mycological Society Sees its Third Successful Year at the Minnesota State Fair by Steve Netzman, Past President, Minnesota Mycological Society (MMS)

Up here in Minnesota we take our seasons seriously. Getting toward the end of August, the whole state seems resigned to an inevitable chill-down and pours into the fairgrounds north of St. Paul, MN. The big attraction is something billed as “The Great Minnesota Get-Together” and it is one of the largest (if not the largest) Fairs in the country.

MMS has had a strong presence in the Agriculture-Horticulture Building at the Minnesota State Fair for the last three years. Somewhat out of place among the green plants, MMS has still set up spectacular exhibits that won first place and grand championship ribbons in each of those three years. The judges justified their awards, calling the MMS exhibit “visually coordinated and appealing,” “an excellent educational display,” and declaring that it offered “something for all ages.” It would not be an exaggeration to say that MMS has raised the bar for exhibits in the building.

But enough of exercising MMS' bragging rights. I am writing to propose that NAMA affiliates consider following MMS' example and make your own forays into the Fair scene in your states. You may be surprised at how much interest mushroom exhibits generate among Fairgoers. Don't forget: people go to Fairs largely to see the unusual, and a lot of people still consider mushrooms unusual -- even exotic.

Ironically, though MMS has taken all these ribbons in competition, we weren't even considering competition when we first assembled the exhibit. To clear this up, some history of how MMS got involved in the enterprise is in order.

I had been entering wine-making competitions at the Fair over the past several years. I have some confidence in the wines I concocted at home and thought I could garner a winning ribbon or two. Alas, the judges didn't quite agree and I had nothing to show for my efforts. But the Fair kept sending me booklets every year outlining all the competitions to take place in the Agricultural-Horticultural (a.k.a., Ag-Hort) building. Lots of green plants, vegetables, fruits, and flowers, etc., but conspicuously absent—in my mind—were mushrooms. So, in the early summer of 2008, I started making inquiries at State Fair offices. I finally came to some agreement with the director of Ag-Hort competitions that his organization would open a new category of competition for cultivated mushrooms and that MMS members would provide the initial entries.

However, since MMS was not collectively engaged in mushroom cultivation, our board decided earlier that year that we should start cultivating, keeping two purposes in mind: 1) providing members experience in the art and science of cultivation, and; 2) determining which species and varieties of mushrooms would prove most reliable for the 2008 Fair in August. Then we ordered supplies and scheduled a trial run cultivation meeting.

Well, our trial run was a big flop. We got drubbed by the infamous *Trichoderma* green mold. It looked like our efforts to meet the entry deadline were doomed and I was set to cancel...or at least postpone our entry till 2009.

Then, by coincidence, some of our members--myself included--chanced to run into the director of exhibits for the MN State Horticultural Society (MSHS), while we ourselves were exhibiting at a Plant Fair. Among other things, she was scouting out candidates to exhibit at the State Fair under the auspices of MSHS. It didn't even matter to her that mushrooms weren't exactly horticultural material. Turns out the Horticultural Society was looking to expand its base of exhibits that year, even going outside its traditional plant-life boundaries. It was practically an open invitation.

Furthermore--as we understood it--we weren't expected to be competing our mushrooms, but only exhibiting them, so we could open it up to wild mushrooms, dried mushrooms and even mushroom aesthetics as well as our cultivated crops. The thinking was, it paid to have the exhibit as attractive as possible, if only for MMS's benefit. But if mushrooms weren't being judged, exhibits were being judged by the Horticultural Society, and very favorably--it turned out--for MMS.

So it was with great anticipation that we loaded up cars and vans and headed for the Fair grounds on Wednesday afternoon, Aug. 20th, 2008. Under the superb direction of Betty Jo Fulgency—the project's *ad-hoc* chairperson--the exhibit was erected virtually without a hitch. Our space was partitioned into Cultivation, Historical, Culinary, Cultural, Medicinal and NAMA Sections, among others. We were limited only by square footage inside one wing of the building and the time allocated to us. Over the next two days, twelve members of MMS volunteered their services at least four hours at a time, stationing themselves at the exhibit. They did a stellar job securing the exhibit and interacting with the public. The unanimous opinion of those twelve was that it was a completely enjoyable experience. And we were invited back for the following year's Fair.

We expanded the exhibit for 2009, displaying even more mushroom, including tree logs sprouting mature shiitake mushrooms and a big *Leucopaxillus giganteus* --about 17 in. across the cap. Each year of our exhibit featured a large, eye-catching mushroom, and the *Leucopax* was the ‘it’ for 2009. Many of our members brought mushrooms they had found out in the field and this turned out to be an important resource in all the exhibits. Betty Jo again took the helm and we finished - as I indicate - with a flourish.

Now our latest exhibit—this past August—opened with additional space that was generously offered by the Horticultural Society. Needless to say, we accepted the offer and promptly added new sections: among them, a Kid's Section, with hats and microscopes for examining mushroom tissue; also a Toxic Mushroom Section, where we kept mushroom's “bad boys” in glass cases. (We happily found that we could “hatch” and grow an *Amanita* “egg” transplanted into a planting pot. ☺) A Mushroom Beginners Section target for all ages. Because of the added sections and anticipating greater crowds we also solicited more volunteers for each shift.

To her credit, Betty Jo Fulgency has become something of a fixture in MMS' exhibit world. She has tirelessly taken on the roles of decorator and director in shepherding all our exhibits to successful conclusions. Now Betty Jo is a teacher by trade and thus the

educational emphasis in these exhibits. She relates that she enjoys the challenge of coming up with new ideas to be expressed in educational ways. In this case, her goal is to teach the importance of fungi in the living world.

So, as I mentioned before, we hope this outline of our experiences will inspire some of you NAMA affiliates to try Fair exhibiting for yourselves. I could only add the advice that you find someone to drive and organize the effort and keep it a team project. Otherwise, give your members freedom to contribute and do what they do best and you'll ensure yourselves a much better chance of success.



One of the educational exhibits



Betty Jo with MMS's 2nd Award in 2009



Notes for MMS's 3rd Award 2010

Book Review Section to come next issue

In the next issue Dr. Steve Trudell will be reviewing two tasty new books.

Chanterelle Dreams, Amanita Nightmares: The Love, Lore, and Mystique of Mushrooms, by NAMA's own Greg Marley. The book has been named one of three finalists in the International Association of Culinary Professionals' culinary history category. His second is **Edible and Medicinal Mushrooms of New England and Eastern Canada**, by David Spahr.

Myco-News

"New" Lichens

In spite of recent staff cuts, the Field Museum has done some valuable work on lichens. [Go to the "About Us" on the Field Museum site, then go to "Press Room", and check out the fascinating details.] One recent release describes a study at Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park in Florida. Within one square kilometer a team of twenty documented over 400 different lichens, including 18 never identified and almost 100 not previously known in North America. In another release, there is a summary of the work of a team of over 103 lichenologists who collaborated with Robert Lucking and Thorsten Lumbsch of the Field Museum and authored a paper describing one hundred lichen species. More detail is available at <http://fieldmuseum.org/users/thornsten-lumbsch/blog/one-hundred-new-lichen-species-described>. The complete report was published in *Phytotaxa* in February and runs over 120 pages. www.mapress.com/phytotaxa/content/2011/pt00018.htm.

One benefit of the effort is that each new species is given its own web site in the **Encyclopedia of Life** done in conjunction with the Smithsonian Institution. Courtesy of Boston Mycological Club and the Puget Sound Mycological Society newsletters.

Cultivation of mushrooms goes public!

In addition to recent articles in the *Charlotte Observer* [NC] citing the shiitake logs of NAMA's Past President, Allein Stanley, and the Minneapolis paper describing home cultivation by Ron Spinosa, mushroom cultivation has hit the big time with an article, in no less than, *The Wall Street Journal* [largest circulation of a paper in the US according to PBS – editor]. "The Science Project You Can Eat" by Anne Marie Chaker in the *WSJ* in January describes the range of indoor and outside mushroom cultivation kits, plugs and spawn. She connects the increase in interest with mushrooms to the growing awareness of edible mushrooms, the 'natural' food movement, a new educational activity for kids, and just growing your own. The article is available at: <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704698004576103981377557622.html>. Courtesy of the Pikes Peak Mycological Society, *Spore-Addict Times*, Volume XXXVII, Issue 1, April 2011.

"From Soup to MS Drug: One Fungus's Journey"

An article by Kanoko Matsuyama in *Business Week* magazine outlines the work of Professor Tatsuro Fujita, of Kyoto University, in investigating the parasitic Himalayan fungus *Cordyceps*. The fungus has been used as a soup in Asia known as 'winter insect, summer plant'. The *Cordyceps* fungus invades an insect larva during the winter, feeds on the insect for months, and then grows

out of the host insect in the summer. A drug named *Gilenya*, has been developed from the fungus has been licensed for treatment of multiple sclerosis. The drug has been available in the US since October and is expected to be approved in the near future. The story in Bloomberg News, dated February 3, is available at: www.businessweek.com/news/2011-02-03/himalayan-fungus-boost-mitsubishi-tanaba-revenue.html. Courtesy of *Spore-Addict Times*, Vol XXXVII, Issue 1, April 2011.

Cook Your Edibles

An unusual rash on a patient in Portland, Oregon made the New York Times! Turns out the diagnosis of poison oak did not fit with the series of scarlet crisscrossing lines on the patient's arms, back, chest and abdomen. Final diagnosis was Shiitake dermatitis, first described almost 40 years ago. The rash may be due to a rare reaction to lentinan. Lentinan breaks down with heat, so the rash is only seen when the mushrooms are eaten raw or only partially cooked. The patient recovered, but unfortunately said she would not touch another Shiitake. Lisa Sanders' complete article can be accessed at: <http://NYTimes.com/2011/02/20/magazine/20fob-diagnosis-t.html>. Courtesy of Puget Sound Mycological Society, *Spore Prints*, Number 471, April 2011.

Apps

As a follow up to Joel Horman's timely article "Mushroom Apps for the iPod", which was reprinted in the *Mycophile* 50:6, September/October 2010, Roger Phillips' app is now available for Android smart phones. Courtesy of Roger Eklund and Joel Horman the Long Island Mycological Club's newsletter, *L.I. Sporeprint*, Vol 19, No 1, Spring 2011. If you have an Apple iPad/iPhone you should check out the Apple Apps Store for mycological apps. These vary from free to \$4.99. Courtesy of the Pikes Peak MS, *Spore-Addict Times*, Vol XXXVII, Issue 1, April 2011.

Zombie Ants

Three researchers working in Brazil have discovered that a fungal pathogen, *Ophiocordyceps unilateralis*, is able to infect and influence the behavior of a single tribe of ants. The report entitled "Hidden Diversity Behind the Zombie-Ant Fungus *Ophiocordyceps unilateralis* : Four New Species Described from Carpenter Ants in Minas Gerais, Brazil" by Harry Evans, Simon Elliot and David Hughes was released in early March in *PLoSOne* 6(3). It is available in full at: www.plosone.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pone.0017024. The four species of *O. unilateralis* infect specific species of the Camponotini tribe of ants and take control of the ant's bodily actions. The infected ant leaves the

colony, climbs a small shrub and anchors itself to a leaf. After it dies the fungus turns the ant's body into a spore factory and launch site. The four species of *O. unilateralis* complex may be readily separated by microscopic examination. Courtesy Susquehanna Valley Mycological Society, *The Mushroomer*, Vol 17 #1, Winter 2011; and Danielle Venton, Puget Sound Mycological Society, *Spore Prints*, Number 471, April 2011.



a) Single stroma, characteristic of *Ophiocordyceps unilateralis sensu lato*, with two lateral ascomatal cushions or plates arising from the dorsal pronotum of *Camponotus rufipes* (the red-legged ant), firmly attached to a leaf vein (bar = 0.8 mm *PLoS One* 6(3) www.plosone.org)

Just Warm Enough

Ever wonder why dinosaurs did not regain control of the earth? Dr. Casadevall, a researcher at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, did and considered two separate, but interconnected matters. First, there was a tremendous amount of dead material after the demise of the dinosaurs which brought about a fungal bloom. Second, fungi plague cold-blooded animals, plants and insects more than they do to birds or mammals. He developed a theory that the warm body temperatures might have protected birds and mammals from fungal pathogens while those pathogens may have prevented reptiles from rising again. Enter Dr. Bergman of the College's Systems and Computational Biology Department. The mathematical analysis of the costs of high metabolic rates and the benefits that protected against microbes yields an optimum at 36.7° degrees Celsius, which closely approximates mammalian body temperatures. Tina Hesmay Saey's article is available at www.Sciencenews.org/view/generic/id/67029/title/just_warm_enough. The original paper was published in 2010 at: www.mbio.asm.org/content/1/5/e00212-10.full.html. Courtesy Susquehanna Valley Mycological Society, *The Mushroomer*, Vol 17 #1, Winter 2011; and Bob Cresko, Long

Island Mycological Club, *L.I. Sporeprint*, Vol 19, No 1, Spring 2011.

Courtesy Puget Sound Mycological Society, *Spore Prints*, Number 471, April 2011.

Early Use of Magic Mushrooms?

According to a report in the *New Scientist*, researchers have found cave paintings in Spain that may depict small mushroom-like objects. The researchers believe that the paintings match the size and shape of hallucinogenic fungus – *Psilocybe hispanica*. The report notes that a similar mural in North Africa dates back about 9000 years. www.newscientist.com/article/mg20928025.400-earliest-evidence-of-magic-mushroom-use-in-europe.htm



MYCO HUMOR SECTION

Fungus Football

Most football teams are named for predatory birds (Philadelphia Eagles), fierce animals (Detroit Lions), warlike hordes (Minnesota Vikings) and the like. Very few are named for plants—the Scottsdale Fighting Artichokes being a notable exception—and none at all for fungi. That's a shame because there are lots of splendid fungal names out there, and using some of them as team names might help to palliate an otherwise violent sport.

If football teams were named after fungi we could have the:

Anaheim Angels of Death
Buffalo Boletes
Chicago Chanterelles
Dallas Dirty Trichs
Edmonton Enokis
Jacksonville Jack-O-Lanterns
Minnesota Morels
Portland Portabellos
San Francisco Shaggy Manes
St. Louis Slippery Jacks
Toronto Turkey Tails

But perhaps not the:

Baltimore Blushers
Chattanooga Chickens-of-the-Woods
Houston Hairy Fairy Caps
Pittsburgh Puffballs
Seattle Stinkhorns

And definitely not the Boston Blewit!

Submitted by John Lehman

Tongue-in-cheek Morel Hunting Techniques *

Chain saw

When you hunt morels, take along a chain saw. Start it up and leave it running, but set it down on the ground. The mushrooms think you are just cutting wood, and don't bother to hide. When you spot the first one, sneak up on it, tap it with your finger and yell, "Tag, you're it!" This startles the mushroom and it then leads you to another one that IT tags. Grab them both, before they realize they have been tricked.

Dr. Mike Tansey

Dean Abel noted that chain saws are prohibited in some state parks. "So you cannot use a chain saw to harvest big fungi. Bring your axe and happy hunting."

*Courtesy Prairie States Mushroom Club, *Symbiosis*, Vol 28:2, Spring 2011

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS! 2011

This year the Treasurer's and Second Vice President's three-year terms are up. The current treasurer is going to be retiring from her NAMA position. The current Second Vice President has indicated that she is willing to run again.

Any interested candidate should send a **consent-to-serve** and a **short biographical description of their qualifications and experience** to John Plischke III, 411 Center Avenue, Greensburg, PA 15601.

Questions may be addressed to John at 724-832-0271 or Fungi01@aol.com.

Anyone interested in working as Associate Editor of the *Mycophile* should send a statement of their interest and experience to Bruce Eberle at Bruce.Eberle@msn.com



The NAMA Foray

Hosted by the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club

In the Black Forest of Pennsylvania
2011 Dr. Richard Homola Memorial Foray

Thursday, August 4 – Sunday, August 7, 2011

Name of each participant as you wish it to appear on your name tag. Deadline for registration: **May 31, 2011**

Names: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: Day (____) _____ Evening (____) _____ email: _____

Local club affiliation(s) for name tags: _____

Name of preferred roommate: _____ Assign roommate: Male _____ Female _____

Do you require vegetarian meals or have other special concerns? _____

Registration Fees -- All Fees are per person:

Conference: Thursday Aug. 4 to Sunday Aug. 7

3 room nights, 8 meals from Thursday dinner through

Sunday brunch, all programs and forays

Waiver Reason _____

Single Supplement

# _____	@ \$350 each	\$ _____
# _____	@ 0	\$ _____
# _____	@ \$130	\$ _____

Off site (meals, programs, forays, no rooms) # _____ @ \$255 each \$ _____

NAMA Trustees Meeting: Tuesday Aug. 2 to Thursday Aug. 4

2 room nights, 6 meals, Tuesday dinner – Thursday lunch

Single Supplement

# _____	@ \$120 each	\$ _____
# _____	@ \$80	\$ _____

Ascomycetes Workshop: Thursday Aug. 4

1 room night, Wed. dinner – Thursday lunch

(1 night, 3 meals, microscopes, and all materials)

Single Supplement

# _____	@ \$120 each	<u>SOLD OUT</u>
# _____	@ \$40	\$ _____

NAMA membership (required if not current)

(You must be a NAMA or WPMC member to attend)

Mycology student (limit 4) discount – Subtract

# _____	@ \$35	\$ _____
# _____	@ – \$100	<u>SOLD OUT</u>

TOTAL \$ _____

Make checks payable in US funds to: WPMC/NAMA 2011

Mail to: WPMC/NAMA 2011, Becky Plischke, 129 Grant Street, Greensburg, PA 15601

Questions? Call Becky 724.834.2358 Email to morelbp@aol.com

Cancellation Policy: If you need to cancel your plans to attend the Foray, we will refund all but \$50 if you cancel before May 15. From May 16 to June 15, we will refund half your registration fee. NO refund after June 15, 2011.

We must have a signed release for each person attending the foray.

Liability Release and Promise Not to Sue

I understand there is some risk in participating in a mushroom foray and conference, including, but not limited to, those risks associated with mushroom identification, walks, field trips, excursions, meetings, dining, damage to or loss of personal property by theft or misplacement and other expected and unexpected occurrences. I further realize that there is always the possibility of having an allergic reaction to or being poisoned by the eating of wild mushrooms and that these adverse reactions to eating wild mushrooms range from mild indigestion to fatal illness.

In registering for or attending this foray, I agree to assume total responsibility during this event for my own safety and well-being, and that of any minor children under my care, and for the protection of my and their personal property. I acknowledge that by signing below I release from liability and hold harmless The North American Mycological Association and The Western PA Mushroom Club, their trustees, officers, employees, contractors, and all other persons assisting in the planning and presentation of this event for any sickness, injury, or loss that I or any minor children under my care may suffer during this event or as a result of attending and participating. I further promise not to file a lawsuit or make a claim against any of the persons or organizations listed above, even if they negligently cause me or my minor children injury or loss. Finally, I agree to hold The North American Mycological Association and The Western PA Mushroom Club harmless from any liability they may incur as a result of any damages to any property I may cause. This release and promise is part of the consideration I give in order to attend this event. I understand it affects my legal rights. I intend it to apply not only to me but to anyone who may have the right to make a claim on my behalf.

This is not an event of Clarion University or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Signature 1: _____ Date: _____

Print Name 1: _____

Signature 2: _____ Date: _____

Print Name 2: _____

Volunteer Options:

If you can help in any way, please let us know. The volunteer time of our members is what continues to make NAMA forays such a success and great time for everyone. The coordinator will contact you with details prior to the foray.

Display & identification area:

Set up: _____ Assist identifiers: _____ Clean up: _____

Mycophagy: Saturday

Set up: _____ Preparation: _____ Clean up: _____

Bring mushrooms _____ Specify type and species _____

I will bring the following items for the silent auction: _____

Vendors: Items for sale: _____

2011 NAMA Photo Contest Entry Form Digital Only

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Entry Titles: **Documentary** (images suitable for the fungus or myxomycete to be used in a guide book).

Pictorial (beautiful pictures of fungi or myxomycetes suitable for a calendar, poster, or coffee table book).

Judges Option (pictures that don't fit into either of the other two categories. and/or people, humor, etc.).

Your \$4 fee allows you to enter up to 15 digital images in the contest. Please enter the titles of your photos (or digital filenames) on the lines below. **Additional information is available at NAMA's web site:** www.namyco.org

Pictorial (Limited to 6 entries)

P - 1:

P - 4:

P - 2:

P - 5:

P - 3:

P - 6:

Documentary (Limited to 6 entries)

D - 1:

D - 4:

D - 2:

D - 5:

D - 3:

D - 6:

Judges' Option (Limited to 3 entries)

JO - 1:

JO - 2:

JO - 3:

Entry fee enclosed:

[] \$4.00 for digital contest

Digital images must be mailed on a CD or DVD and will not be returned. Mail images, entry form, and entry fee (check payable to "NAMA") to:

John Plischke III - **Digital**

411 Center Avenue

Greensburg, PA 15601

(724) 832-0271

fungi01@aol.com

Reproduction: **Entry in the contest constitutes the consent of the photographer to allow NAMA to reproduce copies of each winning entry (including Honorable mention etc.) for circulation by the Education Committee among the membership and affiliated societies. NAMA also reserves the right to post images of the winning images on the NAMA web pages, and in the Mycophile. All copyrights remain with the photographer.**

All Entries Must Be Received by July 4, 2011

Education Club News:

Numerous clubs provide training classes for their members and often open them to members of the public. These may be conducted at regular meetings, on forays or guided walks, or at special weekend sessions. One club conducts 'mushroom university' focusing on a different genus each year.

The Missouri Mycological Society has developed an interesting approach to educating its members. They offer a series of four day-long, free classes. Each consists of classroom and field instruction, optional homework and a test. Members who successfully complete classes in identification of poisonous, common (two parts), and edible mushrooms are awarded distinctive pins. A Harry Thiers Certificate for Mushroom Proficiency is awarded upon completion of all four classes. Courtesy of Maxine Stone, *Earthstar Examiner*, Issue 102, March 2011.

The Mycological Society of San Francisco has selected Nikos Najarian, a student at Humboldt State University, to be the recipient of their Esther Colton Whited & Dr. Harry Thiers Scholarship Award. Congratulations to both MSSF for funding and to Mr. Najarian for his accomplishments and potential.

Congratulations also to members of the MSSF's educational committee who conduct outreach programs for teachers and students. Recently, after a presentation made to a 4th grade class, the students formed their own "Fabulous Fungi Club"! Kudos to you! Courtesy of the *Mycena News*, Volume 62, Issue 4, April 2011.

In the latest issue of the Sonoma County Mycological Association's newsletter, Jim Wheeler reports that the SOMA Board plans to expand their scholarship program...[for] deserving students from Sonoma County and throughout the State. In the same issue, an article by Rachel Zierdt reports on the total of seven SOMA awards to students in grades 1 thru 12 at the Healdsburg Science Fair in March and the Sonoma County Science Fair last February. Congratulations to both SOMA and to the seven awardees. Courtesy of *SOMA News*, Volume 23, Issue 9, May 2011.

**Register to attend the Dr. Richard Homola Memorial Foray in Clarion, Pennsylvania
meet old friends, make new ones, enjoy a variety of walks and talks, and discover some Eastern mushrooms!**



Daedaleopsis septentrionalis and *Daedaleopsis confragosa*

Daedaleopsis confragosa (on right side of the top two photos) is commonly known as the Thin Maze Polypore. It's about 1 1/4 to 6 1/2 to inches wide. Its underside where the pore area is located often bruises pinkish when fresh. It typically grows on hardwood. *Daedaleopsis septentrionalis* (on the left side of both photos) has more elongated pore area and it typically grows on birch, however *Alnus* and *Sorbus* are also reported as host trees. *Daedaleopsis* sp. grow in several locations where we will be collecting at the Foray.

Hygrophorus unguinosus

Hygrophorus unguinosus is one of many species of *Hygrophorus* that can be encountered at some of the collecting areas of the foray. Its cap is shades of brown and can be slimy when young and fresh. It is often found growing on the soil under conifers.

Photos and descriptive information provided by John Plischke III